

SMOKE SIGNALS

SERVING AMATEUR RADIO IN WISCONSIN

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Wisconsin ARES Members Activated
to Assist with Tornado Aftermath

RACINE, WI- Local Amateur Radio Emergency Service operators were called into action after the outbreak of tornadoes in Kenosha county which destroyed houses and knocked out power late Monday afternoon. The operators, often called Hams, began providing support communications for the agencies responding to the disaster.

Volunteering their services, the Hams provided logistical communications at the two relief shelters which the Red Cross opened in Kenosha County. The Hams also operated a station at the Kenosha County Emergency Operation Center.

The areas hardest hit by the storm were the townships of Wheatland, Somers and the city of Kenosha. Riding along with Red Cross teams, the Hams began their communications routine helping relay assessments of the damage back to the American Red Cross building in Racine.

"Providing communications is essential." Said Alex Voss N9RGX, Assistant Emergency Coordinator for the Racine County ARES.

"Cellphones are not up to the task. When the teams deployed in the field need to call in their reports you don't want them fumbling with a cellphone. You can't have everyone calling the same phone number at once either. Having a dedicated person along who can radio the information back to the Red Cross is essential to get the time-valued information where it's needed fast." Voss said.

"Organization is key. We set up a communications network at the Red Cross building in Racine, outside of the affected area. radio operators volunteer we assign them to a location. Keeping track of the location of each team member and their situation helps keep them safe. When a disaster strikes, we don't want to add any of our volunteers to the list of affected individuals." Voss said.

"We were ready to go when activated. I couldn't be more proud of our volunteers. We will work with the responding agencies as long as they need us. We'll take what we've learned this time and use it to improve our response in the future."

(Continued on page 8)

Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsas.org>



American Red Cross official, Steve Buck N9EAL, Racine County ARES Emergency Coordinator, Jim Markstrom KB9MMA and Steve Brown KC5GWN listen to reports from communications teams from the Red

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

Swapfests And Other Social Events

February 23, 2008. WeLCARS TechFest. Fox Lake Community Center 23 South Street, Fox Lake, IL Western Lake County Amateur Radio Society. <http://welcars.org>. Talk-In: 145.755 Simplex and IRLP node 4239 Contact: Joe Serocki, N9IFG. 35144 Sheridan Drive, Ingleside, IL 60041. Phone: 224-715-7766. Email: joeserocki@gmail.com 9 March 9 2008. Sterling-Rock Falls Amateur Radio Society, Challand Middle School 1700 16th Avenue, Sterling, IL <http://www.sterlinghamfest.com> Talk-In: 146.85 (PL 114.8). Contact: Lloyd Sherman, KB9APW, 25873 Capp Road, Sterling, IL 61081. Phone: 815-336-2434. Email: lsherman@essex1.com

March 15, 2008, 17th Annual Amateur Equipment Auction Grace Lutheran Church 202 West Grand Avenue, Eau Claire, WI. Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. <http://www.ecarc.org> Talk-In: 146.910 (PL 110.9). Contact: Jim Staatz,

KI9H, Phone: 715-514-0078. Email: KI9H@arrl.net

March 16, 2008. Tri-County ARC Hamfest 2007. Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 503 North Jackson Ave., Jefferson, WI. Contact: TCARC, 213 Frederick Ave., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538. e-mail: tricityarc@yahoo.com (920) 563-6381

March 28-29, 2008. AES SUPER-FEST 2008. AES Milwaukee, [5710 West Good Hope Road](http://www.aesham.com). Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), Milwaukee, WI. <http://www.aesham.com>. Talk-In: 145.130/144.530 N9LKH (PL 127.3). Contact: Ray Grenier, K9KHW, 5710 West Good Hope Road, Milwaukee, WI 53223. Phone: 414-358-4088. Fax: 414-358-3337. Email: rayk9khw@aol.com

April 19, 2008, Madison Area Repeater Association Swapfest, Stoughton, WI. Mandt Community Center, 400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI. Inquiries can be directed to: w9hsy@execpc.com or write to MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890, Tele:608.245.8890 For more information see the MARA website www.qsl.net/mara.

April 26, 2008. 3rd Annual Central Wisconsin Swapfest at the Colby Lions Shelter Colby WI. Sponsored by The Black River Amateur Radio Association. For more information: E-Mail kb9blv@tds.net

May 3. 2008, Ozaukee Radio Club. Circle B Recreation Center, 6261 State Highway 60, (Intersection of St Hwy 60 & Cty Hwy I), Cedarburg, WI <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org> Talk-In: 146.97 (PL 127.3). Contact: Tom Nawrot, AA9XK, 10335 N Grasslyn Road, Mequon, WI 53092. Phone: 262-242-1029 Email: tnawrot@wi.rr.com

June 01, 2008. Bureau County Fairgrounds, [West Peru Street, \(US Routes 6 & 34\)](http://www.qsl.net/w9mks/hamfest.htm), Princeton, IL. Starved Rock Radio Club. <http://www.qsl.net/w9mks/hamfest.htm> Talk-In: 146.955- (PL 103.5). Contact: Frank Carraro, KF9NZ, 2428 East 29th Road, Seneca, IL 61360. Phone: 815-357-1720. Email: starved-rockfest@hotmail.com

June 08, 2008. DuPage County Fairgrounds, [2015 Manchester Road](http://www.qsl.net/k9ona) Wheeling, IL. Six Meter Club of Chicago. <http://www.qsl.net/k9ona>. Talk-In:

146.370/146.970 (PL 107.2) or 146.520. Contact: Joseph Gutwein, WA9RIJ, 6675 South Cass Avenue, Unit 3D, Westmont, IL 60559-3290. Phone: 630-963-4922. Email: wa9rij@arrl.net

July 06, 2008, (**SUNDAY new day**). Oak Creek, WI, Sponsored by the South Milwaukee ARC. American Legion Post 434, 9327 South Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. Contact (414 762-3235. e-mail rvatex@aol.com

August 03 2008. Bolingbrook High School, [365 Raider Way](http://www.k9bar.org), Bolingbrook, IL. Illinois State Convention. lingbrook Amateur Radio Society. <http://www.k9bar.org>. Talk-In: 147.300 +600 (PL 107.2). Contact: Tom Ballard, N9LJY, 19 W 609 Dystrup Avenue, Lemont, IL 60439. Phone: 630-739-3740, Fax: 312-499-7602, Email: tb1301@comcast.net

August 9, 2008, Western Illinois Amateur Radio, Club Eagles Alps 3737 North 5th Street, Quincy, IL <http://www.w9awe.org> Talk-In: 147.030 (PL 103.5). Contact: Danny Pease, NG9R, Camp Point, IL 62320, PO Box 231, Phone: 217-430-2046 Email: ng9r@arrl.net

September 6, 2008, ORC Ham & Hobby Outdoor Swapfest, Fireman's Park W65 N796 Washington Avenue, Cedarburg, WI Ozaukee Radio Club. <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org> Talk-In: 146.97 (PL 127.3). Contact: Gabe Chido, WI9GC, W58 N985 Essex Drive, Cedarburg, WI 53012. Phone: 262-377-2784. Email: gabe@uwm.edu

September13-14, 2008. Radio Expo 2008, Boone County Fairgrounds, US Routes 20 & 76, Belvidere, IL. Chicago FM Club. <http://www.chicagofmclub.org> Talk-In: 146.76 (PL 107.2); 147.255+ (PL 114.8); 444.725+ (PL 118.8)Contact: Mike Brost, WA9FTS, 5127 North Monterey Avenue, Norridge, IL 60706. Phone:

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Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

CHAIRMAN/PUBLISHER/EDITOR: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. e-mail to: kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

Subscription Rate

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly) \$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to kb9csw@arrl.net Dave Spearing, KB9CSW

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the

events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

Check us out on the web
at <http://www.bsss.org>



Appleton
FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:00PM., Goodwill
Community Center, 1800 S. Appleton Road,
Menasha, WI. Information: Brian Long
KB9LRD fcarc@w9zl.org Website: <http://www.fcarc.us>

Baraboo
BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION
SOCIETY (BATS) Check BATS Web page:
<http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/>

Baraboo
YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB Meetings: See the YTARC column else-
where in this issue for meeting times and loca-
tions. For further information: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc>.

Dubuque, IA
GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7 p.m.
at the Red Cross Center, 2400 Asbury Road.
The club serves the tri-state area. On the Web:
<http://www.qsl.net/wb0lob/>. Information or
questions to: N0hdc@aol.com.

Eau Claire
EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m., Eau Claire
Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave., Eau
Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests wel-
come. W9EAU repeater 146.91 MHz, tone
110.9 Hz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA,
President, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI
54702-1867. Phone (715) 838-9108, Email
kg9ra@ecarc.org. Web page: <http://www.ecarc.org>

Fond du Lac
FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park
Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI. Time: 7
p.m. Sunday net: 7:30 p.m. CDT, K9IA re-
peater, 145.430 - PL 107.2 Information: Jack
Heil, KG9IN, 920.922.1413. Email:
kg9in@fdlhams.org Web: <http://www.fdlhams.org>.

Fort Atkinson
TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
second Thursday monthly except June to Au-
gust, 7 p.m., at Dwight Foster Public Library in
Fort Atkinson. ARES Net each Wednesday
evening at 8 and club net Monday evenings at 8
on 145.49 repeater. Contact: Paul Marowsky,
KD9PM, 920-674-4968., or John Satterlee,
WA9SAB, 920.563.6381.

Grafton
Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC) Second Wednesday
of each month at 7:30 p.m. Grafton Multipur-
pose Senior Center, 1665 7th. Ave., Grafton,
Wisconsin www.qsl.net/orc/.

Green Bay
GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB Meet-

ings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Media Ser-
vices area of J. M. Science Building at St. Nor-
bert College in DePere. Information: Kevin at
kb9sne@yahoo.com.

Green Lake
GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Greater Green Lake County area. Meetings:
Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town
Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

Houghton, MI area:
The CCRAA is the "Copper Country Radio
Amateur Association" and they hold meetings
the first Tuesday of each month at the Dollar
Bay Fire Hall. Summer meetings (June, July,
August, and September) are held at the CCRAA
Clubhouse in Osceola (2 mi. S. of Calumet, MI)

Hudson
St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS:
Meetings: Third Monday of every month at 7:15
pm or immediately following the nets which
begin at 7:00 pm. A short business meeting is
held followed by a program. The club meets at
the St. Croix County Emergency Government
Center, 1101 Carmichael Road, Hudson WI. All
are welcome! Talkin and ARES/RACES re-
peater: 145.130 MHz, PL tone 110.9. The
ARES/RACES net is held every Monday eve-
ning at 7:00 pm immediately followed by the St.
Croix Valley Friendly Net also on 145.130. All
check-ins are welcome. Web site:
www.pressenter.com/~scvra/. Club repeater:
147.33 PL tone 110.9. An informal breakfast
gathering is held every Saturday morning, 8:00
am, at Perkins in Hudson. For additional infor-
mation contact: Lou Greub, WB9PVA, Secre-
tary. e-mail: l.greub218pressenter.com

Juneau
ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB Meetings: First
Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Admini-
stration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau,
WI. ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30
p.m., Saturdays, 7278 KHZ, Alternate in 3.947
at 10:00 AM. & Wednesday, 1908 KHZ 8:00
PM, Wintertime.

La Crosse
Riverland Amateur Radio Club Meeting: First
Tuesday. Gundersen Clinic, 1900 South Ave.,
La Crosse, WI. Basement Conference Room 1.
Meeting at 7:00p.m. More information: <http://www.qsl.net/wr9arc> E-mail wr9arc@qsl.net
Sunday night net at 8:00 pm on 146.970.
Wednesday morning breakfast at 8:00 am at
Ardie's restaurant. Friday lunch at Hooters in
downtown La Crosse. <http://rarc.qth.com> E-
mail: wr9arc@rarc.qth.com

Madison
SPACE PLACE AMATEUR RADIO CENTER
No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison cam-
pus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the
U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station,
N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG,
President, (608) 263-4685. Email:
n9uw@sal.wisc.edu.

Madison
BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Uni-
versity of Wisconsin - Madison/W9YT Meet-
ings: Third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in UW Union
South. Room number posted on the Today in
The Union board. Information: Don Michalski,

W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email:
w9ixg@arrl.org. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/w9yt>.

Madison
Madison DX Club, meetings are on every
fourth Tuesday of each month; see <http://madisondxclub> for more details.

Madison
FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross
Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C,
downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms
State Office Building.

Manitowoc
MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMA-
TEURS (ManCoRad) Second Wednesday of
each month. Club board meets at 6:30 p.m., and
Regular meeting is at 7:30 p.m., at 1105 Fleet-
wood Drive, 2nd floor (Old County Shop build-
ing on northwest side of city.) For Additional
information please see our club web-site
www.w9dk.com or contact Fred Neuenfeldt,
W6BSF, (920) 682-9312. Email: fredand-pat@lakefield.net

Marinette WI
Menominee MI
Amateur Radio Club Meetings held second
Thursday 7:00PM each month BAMC Tenth
Avenue Menominee Michigan in the basement.
Guests welcome e-mail secretary
kg9ad@arrl.net

Medford
Black River Amateur Radio Association Meet-
ings: Normally the first Thursday of each
month. Usual meeting time is 7 PM. Most meet-
ings are held at the Taylor County Courthouse.
Directions: Those attending should park in the
main courthouse parking lot on the east side of
the building, and enter using the main court-
house entrance or the sheriff's dept. entrance.
Proceed to the lower level of the courthouse
using the stairs or elevator. We meet in the
"break room" on the lower level, near the Emer-
gency Government office. Talk-in on the 147.15
repeater (114.8 Hz PL, +600 kHz offset) and
146.52 MHz simplex. Contact: Mike Schoen-
fuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI
54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

Menomonee Falls
FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Meetings: Last Wednesdays at Bank One build-
ing in Germantown. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting
time: 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome!

Menomonie WI
Saturday coffee at Burger King, 544 Main
Street, at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at
7:00 p.m. at the Depot, 2616 Hills Court, north
of Wal-Mart on highway 25 North, in January,
March, April, and September through Novem-
ber. Guests welcome!

Milwaukee
GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIA-
TION Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30
p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary
Schwartz, K9GS, (262) 363-4439. Email:
garyk9gs@arrl.net.

Milwaukee
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. Redemp-
tion Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair
Road, Wauwatosa, WI. Mailing address: P.O.
Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Web:
<http://www.qsl.net/mrac> . Email: w9rh@arrl.net.

Northeast Area
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSOCIA-
TION Meetings quarterly: April 28, Marinette;
August 25, Fox Valley; November 10, Green
Bay. For specific information about meetings,
check <http://home.new.rr.com/newdx/>. Contact
us at w9dxa@arrl.net.

Oak Creek
SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion
Post #434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. In
March and October the meetings are turned into
Auction Nights.. The club WEB site is
www.qsl.net/wa9txe

Onalaska (see La Crosse)

QCWA Chapter 162
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSO-
CIATION (QCWA) Southeastern Wisconsin
Chapter 162. Meetings: Third Monday in Janu-
ary, March, May, July, September, and Novem-
ber, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant,
Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in
February, April, June, August, and October.
Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday
in December.

QCWA Chapter 55
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSO-
CIATION (QCWA) Wisconsin Chapter 55
meets the first Saturday of June and October.
For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron
Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N. Pt Washing-
ton Road, Grafton, WI 53024-9703. (262) 375-
1774. mailto:rryokes@execpc.com.

Racine
LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION
Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July,
October. American Red Cross Building, 4521
Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Racine
RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB Meetings:
Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., American Red
Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Sheboygan
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB Meetings: Second Tuesdays. 7 p.m.,
Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Build-
ing, 2032 Erie Avenue.

Shell Lake
Northland ARC meetings are held the first Sat-
urday of each month after breakfast. Location:
Schmitz's Economart Deli. Located on US
Hwy.63 on the south end of Spooner. The meet-
ing will start at approx. 8:00 AM. Breakfast
usually starts by 7:30 AM. Come and see what
we're about. Anyone, even if you're licensed or
not and has an interest in ham radio is welcome
to attend! Next Meeting: Sept 4th, 2004 at 8:00
AM. So Please plan to attend!!!! <http://home.centurytel.net/NorthlandARC/>.

(Continued on page 7)

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CST	Manager
BWN	YES	3985	1200	0600	W9IXG
BEN	YES	3985	1800	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985	2315	1715	K9FHI
WNN	YES	3555	0000	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3555	0030	1830	N9JIY
WIN/E	YES	3555	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3555	0400	2200	W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61	2330	1930	KA9OMC
(Mondays CDT— Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12	0345	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25	0300	2100	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
ARES/RACES (WRACES)	NO	3997.5	0000	1800	N9VAO
(Sundays)					

Wisconsin Section STM Report

STM Report

Wisconsin Section

November 2007

FAQ # 76 – What does a net manager do and how can I become one? Your question couldn’t be more timely. We’re going to need a net manager or two in the near future, so let’s consider that position. First, what are the hours, duties, requirements, pay, and benefits?

The time required to be a Net Manager is as long as one would like to devote to the tasks. The NM appoints net controls, represents the net at WNA quarterly, on-the-air meetings, issues net certificates, and reports the net’s monthly activities to the Section Traffic Manager by the 7th of the following month. Reports include the number of check-ins, the traffic cleared (and traffic offered, if available), the time spent in session, and the number of nets held. NMs may also conduct testing of candidates for Official Relay Station appointment if they consider it necessary before making appointment recommendations to the STM. Net Managers also have the function of requiring that all traffic handled through an NTS net or node be in proper ARRL form.

Requirements? Novice class license or higher, full ARRL membership, and a desire to serve the NTS in our section. That’s it.

Pay for this valuable service comes in the form of satisfaction – the gratitude of the net members, the feeling of a job well done, the appreciation of the STM, and knowing one is part of a valuable, nationwide system devoted to service and training. The most significant benefit comes from working with some great operators. Interested? Talk with a current NM, and please let me know if you could serve. 73 – K9LGU/ STM - WI

December 2007

FAQ # 77 – Time is short. Can you just give me the highlights?
Yes.

- (1) The section nets in Wisconsin survived 2007 *very* well – considering a noticeable downturn in conditions towards the end of the year. Check-ins and traffic are up significantly. Look at this:

(Continued on page 7)

Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsss.org>

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY November 2007

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	2359	2974	5894	30	W9IXG
BEN	543	80	1200	31	KE9VU
WSBN	499	57	783	30	K9FHI
WNN	98	9	261	20	KB9ROB
WSSN	76	10	189	25	N9JIY
WIN/E	93	12	216	27	WB9ICH
WIN/L	124	27	270	30	W9UW
WRACES	24	0	50	3	N9VAO
TOTALS	3816	3169	8863	196	
MWCRN	218	93	517	4	WA9ZTY

December 2007

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	2379	3351	6215	31	W9IXG
BEN	619	68	1257	31	KE9VU
WSBN	484	23	636	31	K9FHI
WNN	65	4	138	12	KB9ROB
WSSN	83	9	144	25	N9JIY
WIN/E	116	23	249	28	WB9ICH
WIN/L	41	23	267	30	W9UW
WRACES	51	1	99	4	N9VAO
TOTALS	3938	3502	9005	192	
MWCRN	300	112	645	5	WA9ZTY

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY November 2007

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KA9EKG	44	622	598	30	1294 - BPL
KB9KEG	33	225	33	225	516 - BPL
K9LGU	0	30	41	1	72
AG9G	0	15	53	0	68
W9RTP	0	24	30	4	58
K9FHI	0	26	30	0	56
KN9P	0	23	0	23	46
KE9VU	0	31	2	0	33
K9GU	0	0	28	0	28
KB9ROB	0	15	6	5	26
W9RSX	0	3	22	0	25
WD9FLJ	1	8	12	2	23
W9UW	0	13	2	3	18
WB9ICH	0	8	2	1	11
W9PVD	0	0	1	0	1

December 2007

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KB9KEG	36	319	0	319	638 – BPL
K9LGU	0	38	30	0	68
AG9G	0	6	57	0	63
K9FHI	0	16	29	0	45
KE9VU	0	31	2	0	33
KN9P	1	13	1	13	28
KB9ROB	0	16	4	8	28
W9UW	2	16	2	0	20
WB9ICH	0	10	2	3	15
W9RSX	0	1	10	1	12
WD9FLJ	0	1	7	1	9
W9PVD	0	1	2	1	4

(Continued on page 10)

The Computer Corner

by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
715 N. Dries Street
Saukville, WI 53080-1664
(262) 268-1949
skaplan@mcw.edu



No. 141. URLs and the Hosts File

Before we get into the contents of the Hosts file and how you can use it to your benefit, lets consider the topic of web addresses in general. When you wish to visit a website, lets say majorgeeks, you type in that name in your browser, or you click a shortcut to that name. Most often, you type in the URL (Uniform Resource Locator) <http://www.majorgeeks.com>, but just the Registered Domain Name majorgeeks.com will work all by itself (as will just majorgeeks). When you type in the URL, your machine makes a request to a server somewhere on the web (maybe thousands of miles from you) to translate the URL you typed into an IP (Internet Protocol) address. The Internet Protocol address is a unique address that computers and other smart electronic devices use to identify and communicate with each other. Once the IP address has been found by the server and sent back to your machine, you are taken to that address:

URL	IP Address
http://www.majorgeeks.com	208.101.7.150

So the URL is sort of like a name, Stan Kaplan, while the IP address is like a telephone number, (262) 268-1949. Actually, the majorgeeks IP address links to a server in Dallas owned by SoftLayer Technologies, Inc., a company that provides web services to majorgeeks. URLs are a convenient way for us humans, who understand combinations of letters as words, to link with sites that are best addressed by digital devices with numbers.

Hey, you might wonder how those four groups of numbers separated by dots can handle all of the Internet addresses in the world. Those numbers actually represent 32-bit (4 byte) values, so there are 2^{32} possible addresses, or roughly 4.3 billion. That is not enough. A shortage of such addresses is on the horizon, so a new standard, using 128 bits (16 bytes) is already in use. That will give us 2^{128} unique addresses, or about 3.4×10^{38} total. Someone computed that this would provide roughly 5,000 addresses for every square micrometer on the earth's surface, surely enough for the foreseeable future!

Now on to your HOSTS file. This is a file you can safely open and examine with the Universal Viewer program I mentioned in #140. You can use Notepad or other simple text editor, too, but use care not to edit anything – just close Notepad when you are done without saving the file. You can find the HOSTS file here, depending on the version of Windows you use. Look for a file with just the name: Hosts .. no extension.

Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsسسs.org](http://www.bsسسs.org)

OS	Location of HOSTS File
Vista and XP	C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM32\DRIVERS\ETC
2000	C:\WINNT\SYSTEM32\DRIVERS\ETC
98/ME	C:\WINDOWS

The Host file can contain IP addresses and URLs, just as in the majorgeeks example I gave above. Indeed, it defines a URL as having that particular address, and if your machine has such a definition in the Hosts file, it doesn't have to go out to a server on the web to look up the address before it takes you there. It just goes right to that address. Now, that might be handy in slightly speeding up your browsing, but that is an unimportant side issue. The real value to you lies in security.

If you look at your Host file, you will see that the very first entry (after any comment lines – those preceded by the symbol #) is:

127.0.0.1 localhost

What that says – what it defines, is that the IP address 127.0.0.1 is your own machine (localhost). If you type that address into IE, you will get the message that the page cannot be found, because it looked at your own computer and did not find a webpage. If you type it into Firefox, you will be presented with a blank page. Well, now, how can that be of any value to you, security-wise?

Suppose you type in as the second line of your Hosts file:

127.0.0.1 porn.com

Now, if you ever accidentally type <http://www.porn.com> in your browser's address window, you will never get there. You'll get a blank screen or a "page cannot be found" message. But that is not all – it gets even better. If you are browsing on the web and you come to a page that tries to redirect you to porn.com (such redirection occurs ALL THE TIME, without your knowledge or consent), the redirection will also fail. Neato! What a tool! Now, all we need is a list of all the bad sites on the web, so we can type them into our Hosts file. THAT IS NOT NECESSARY!

It has all been done for you already. First visit <http://www.mvps.org/winhelp2002/hosts.htm> to read the page entitled BLOCKING UNWANTED PARASITES WITH A HOSTS FILE. I suggest you print the 5 pages for further study, so that you understand the implications of using 127.0.0.1 to help you browse the web more safely.

Next, visit majorgeeks and download and install the HostsMan (Host File Manager) program. Once installed, have the program get the very latest updates into your Hosts file, combining the efforts of several sites to cover the bulk of all the bad places on the web. It will make a backup of your old Hosts file, too. I currently have over 64,000 entries in my new Hosts file, and the file is just under 2 MB in size. The next time you boot your machine, all of those entries will be read into memory and kept there while the machine is on. Then, when you browse the web, your machine will check each URL in its memory before going out to look up the IP address so it can take you there. Any "bad guys" in your Hosts list will automatically be blocked, since the IP address points to your own machine.

This is a simple fix to block ads, banners, 3rd party cookies, 3rd party page counters, web bugs, many hijackers, data miners and other such malware from getting into your machine. Moreover, should one ever get into your machine via a non-web based source (floppy, CD, etc.), it will not be able to get out to "phone home", so long as it is included in your Hosts file. While not a substitute for anti-virus and antispyware software, using the Hosts file as outlined here will certainly keep your machine safer. Do it. It is worth it. Happy Computing!

WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

NOVEMBER 2007

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: KB9ENO, STM: K9LGU, SGL: AD9X, OOC: KC9IS, PIC: KB9NUM, TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK, ACC: N9LVS ASM: K9UTQ, W9DGI, N9VE

** With regret, I am informing you of the passing of the following Amateurs:
-- Joseph Mezera, WA9SOQ, 64.
-- Ron Moody, K9RWM, 66. Ron was a member of the Chippewa Valley ARC
-- George McArthur, N9ZGY, 53. He was a member of Yellow Thunder ARC and Sauk County ARES.
-- Wanda Horak, formally N9FPU, 89, mother of W9IXG.

** The West Allis Radio Amateur Club 36th annual midwinter Swapfest will be held on Saturday, January 5, 2008, 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. at the Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. Directions: I-94 west from Milwaukee to County Hwy J (exit 294), south to County Hwy FT, west to the Expo. Special Events: VE session (9-11:15 A.M.) at AMF Waukesha Lanes (across from Expo) and Badger Contester's meeting. Costs: Admission: advanced \$4, door \$5. Eight-foot tables only: advanced 1 or 2 tables \$18, 3 or more \$16; door \$20 (if available), electrical outlet \$19 (advance only). Registration: Send advance registration form and #10 business size SASE to WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Advance reservation deadline is December 30, 2007. Information: Phil Gural, W9NAW, 414.425.3649 or visit www.warac.org

** THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer fifty-six (56) scholarships for the academic year 2007 - 2008 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$3000 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pur-

suit of certain study programs.

Here are some awards for Wisconsin-only residents:
The OZAUKEE Radio Club Scholarship pays \$1000. It is available to Wisconsin residents pursing a Bachelor's or Graduate degree in any course of study.
The South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarship pays \$1000. Applicants must be Wisconsin residents and intend to seek an Associate or Bachelor's degree from a college or university in the U.S. Preference will be given to applicants studying Electrical Engineering or related technology.
The WARAC Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, pays \$1500. Applicants must be Wisconsin residents pursuing an Associate, Bachelor's or Graduate degree in any course of study.

More information is available at the FAR site: <http://www.amateurradio-far.org/index.php> Email applications can be obtained by contacting Diane Zimmerman AA3OF@arrl.net

** Family Disaster Plan -- Disasters can strike anyone, anytime, and anywhere. The emergency may require you and your family to evacuate your home or to stay at home without electricity or water. Advance planning can save precious time in an emergency. This free on-line course provides step by step instructions for developing a family disaster plan. (It is based on the course "Personal Preparedness" which provides similar information for anyone who might be required to respond to an emergency as a worker or volunteer. More information and registration is available on this website:

<http://www.ualbanycphp.org/learning/registration/tab.cfm?course=fpp&s=Overview> Skip Sharpe, W9REL. Planning and Preparedness; Wisconsin Emergency Mgmt

** Y.A.C.H.T. The Young Amateur Contest Ham Team is moving ahead. Organized by Ed Engleman, KG8CX, the group has expanded to lower Michigan and Northeastern Wisconsin. There are currently 11 youth members of the group and 6 adult advisors. The group is open to any licensed youth. Contact Ed, KG8CX, kg8cx@new.rr.com

Check us out on the web at <http://www.bsسس.org>

Wishing everyone a very happy and safe holiday season!!

73, Don, W9IXG

DECEMBER 2007

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0400-0715 W9IXG. BEN 3985 1200 KE9VU. WSBN 3985 1715-1800 K9FHI. WNN 3555 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3555 1830 N9JIY. WIN-E 3555 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3555 2200 W9UW. (All times are Central time)

** With regret, I am informing you of the passing of the following Wisconsin Amateurs:
-- Bill Johnson, N9PHO, 69.
-- Pat Giese, AB9NY, 64. Pat was a VE and member of Sheboygan County ARC.
-- Jim Paul, N9LKY, 56. Jim was one of the founders of Badgerland Amateur Television Society and he was also a member of the Yellow Thunder ARC.
-- Dolores Lopes, KB9IRD, 80. Dolores was a member of the Fox Cities ARC.
-- Walter Kalata, WA9FFT, 74. Walter was a member of the Fox Cities ARC.
-- Daniel Imanski, N9EJD, 80. He was an Amateur for over 40 years.
-- Ray Wolfe, K9RI, 56. Ray was a member of and past president of Lake-shore Repeater Association; president of SPARK (South Port Amateur Radio Klub); vice president of ARLOW (Amateur Radio League Of Wisconsin); member of Racine Megacycle Club. He served as ARES EC for Kenosha County for many years.

** I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Edward Engleman, KG8CX, as the Assistant Section Manager for Wisconsin Youth. Ed is the coordinator for the D.A.R. Boys and Girls Radio Club-K8DAR and the Young Amateurs Contest Ham Team (YACHT). <http://community-2.webtv.net/dx2100/16thAve/>. Ed is willing to advise and assist anyone who is interested in developing programs to encourage youngsters to become active in Amateur Radio. Individuals or groups that show interest can come up to Menominee and see for themselves how the K8DAR station is operated, talk to the kids, the adult leaders, and learn, firsthand, how the Youth ham programs function, and what it takes to keep it operating successfully and relevant to the needs and interests of the participants. Contact him at kg8cx@new.rr.com Thank you, Ed!

** Congratulations to Steve Smith, W9GPI, Emergency Coordinator for Fond du Lac County on his election to president of the Fond du Lac ARC and, also, for receiving the 2007 Ham of the Year

award! Certainly, well deserved recognition for his contributions to the club and his service to Amateur Radio.

** The fourth generation ECARC member, Alexis, K9LXI, is featured in this nice ARRL article: <http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2007/12/25/1/?nc=1> Alexis is an active ECARC member and worked the 2007 GOTA Field Day station. Well done!!

** Calling your local TV station It is the curse of the salesman -- the "cold call." Trying to sell widgets to someone who has given no indication that they even know what a widget may be, let alone want to buy one. People fear them on BOTH ends of the conversation. We really do not like disappointment or refusals. We take it personally. Unfortunately, too many hams see contacting their local TV station as the same thing. They fear making a "cold call" and being rejected. They would rather just comfortably edit a club newsletter that never reaches their community. That's most unfortunate because contacting a TV news desk is FAR from being even similar as an experience. As many as 8 out of 10 stories on the evening news get there because somebody called to pitch an idea. They WANT to hear your stories. They NEED to have stories. They LOSE MONEY if they do not get stories. If you have a decent story, you are providing them a service they cannot live without and your club gets publicity.

** Plan NOW for Your Hamfest The snow may still be flying but NOW is the time to make or break your next Hamfest. 1. Invite your local volunteer firefighters to have a free display -- They learn about you and our EmComm operations. Everyone wins! 2. Invite a politician to drop by. Maybe to even talk a bit about what you mean to the community. There's a major election coming and they want face time 3. What other groups have you provided communications for in the past year? Give them a free table 4. Looking for brochures? It does no good to give promo brochures to hams -- they ARE hams already! But if they will pass them on to NON-hams, then it may do some good. www.arrl.org/brochures. The more community involvement you get, the more family and friends they will bring in with them. But to do it right, you need to get working on it and the invitations out this month while other organizations are also planning their own schedules.

73, Don, W9IXG
ARRL Wisconsin Section
Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG
w9ixg@arrl.org

CLUB MEETINGS

(Continued from page 3)

Stevens Point
CWRA Ltd./UWSP ARC Meetings second Wednesday. of each month at 7:30 pm. Science Building on the UW-Stevens Point Campus, Room A107, Stevens Point, WI. Email: jglas776@uwsp.edu. Webpage: www.qsl.net/wb9qfv.

Superior
ARROWHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. Meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Secondary Technical Center. The address is: 802 East Central Entrance - Duluth, MN 55811. The board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

W.A.R. WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS
Quarterly meetings of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters are held at various locations around the State in March, July and November. Check the WAR web page for meeting announcements and repeater coordination info. Information: <http://www.wi-repeaters.org>.

Watertown
WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Room S-114 of the Watertown High School, 825 Endeavour Drive, Watertown, WI 53098 at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday each month.

Waupaca

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CQ First Tue. Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted. CQ Third Fri. Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.

Wausau
WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION Meetings: 7:00 pm the first Tuesday of the month except for July. The meeting location is the Marshfield Clinic, Wausau Center. Talk in is on 147.135 + PL 114.8. Website is www.wvraclub.org.

West Allis
West Allis Radio Amateur Club Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 80th and Lincoln Ave., West Allis. Meetings in basement. Entrance at rear, off alley. Handicapped accessible. www.warac.org.

West Bend
WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Saturday of each month at 8:30 am. Location is the Polk Town Hall, Highway 60 west of Jackson. For more information, call Mike, N9JIY at 262-627-0519, or inquire via the 146.673 repeater.

Wisconsin Rapids
WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month and are held at the McMillan Memorial Library located on the corner of Lincoln St & E. Grand Ave. in Wisconsin Rapids, unless otherwise notified. The meetings start at 6:30 PM and end by 8:00 PM.

Wisconsin Section STM Report

(Continued from page 4)

5-year comparison

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
QNI	42010	43083	41259	43174	49322
QTC	23597	25966	28211	31194	36855
SSNS	2548	2463	2414	2277	2482

- (2) There is still a need for volunteers to serve as net control stations and liaison stations to other nets.
- (3) WD9FLJ has graciously offered his services as Net Manager for the BEN, replacing KE9VU who completes many years of dedicated service.
- (4) Now, we need a Net Manager for the Wisconsin Side Band Net. K9FHI needs to resign after many years of dedicated service. Roy deserves some rest. The WSBN is a great group that almost runs itself – but someone must coordinate and represent it. Please contact K9LGU to offer your time as NM.
- (5) Don't forget to include traffic handling as part of your training as you offer courses for Technician and General Class licenses.
- (6) Remember that we are part of a much bigger system – but we are still an important part.
- (7) Thank you for your support of the NTS in Wisconsin, for your camaraderie, for your careful listening, for your relays, for your attention to detail in nets and traffic handling.

73 – K9LGU/ STM - WI

Hamfest 2008

Presented by:
The Tri-County Amateur Radio Club – W9MQB

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

Jefferson County Fairgrounds - Activity Center

503 North Jackson Ave., Jefferson, WI

From 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM

VE Testing On Site - Starting at 9:00AM

- Vendors will be admitted at 6:00A.M.
- General admission and sales begin at 8:00A.M.
- Vendors-only parking will be provided for unloading.
- Food and Beverages available.

TALK IN ON THE 145.49 REPEATER

ADMISSION: \$5.00 Table Space 8 Foot - \$6.00 each

RESERVE YOUR SPACE EARLY!

Reservations require that we receive your payment in advance.
Please send payment & S.A.S.E. to this address:
TCARC-Hamfest, 213 Frederick Ave., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
Phone: 920-563-6381
Email: tricityarc@yahoo.com Subject: Hamfest 2008

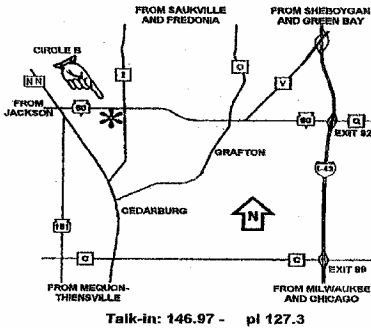
SWAPFEST

The Ozaukee Radio Club , Inc. Presents its 30th Annual
Amateur Radio, Electronics & Computer Swapfest In Cedarburg WI

Saturday, May 3, 2008 from 8 AM to 1 PM (Setup at 6 AM)

Circle B Recreation Center @ 6261 St. Hwy 60 , Cedarburg 53012

Lots
of
Door
Prizes



Lots
of
Door
Prizes

Entrance tickets \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance.
Go to www.ozaukeeradioclub.org for information. Vendor Tables still available @ \$10 each.
Contact Tom Nawrot @ 10335 N. Grasslyn Rd., Mequon, WI 53092
or call 262-242-1029 or 800-698-6087 for advance tickets and tables.

Badger State Smoke Signals
Kenneth A. Ebnetter
822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901
(608) 742-3560
k9en@arrrl.net

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Kenneth A. Ebnetter

**822 Wauona Trail,
Portage, WI 53901**

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

February 02, 2008	Madison, WI
February 02, 2008	St. Paul, MN
February 02, 2008	Racine, WI
February 09, 2008	Blaine, MN
February 09, 2008	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
February 14, 2008	Apple Valley, MN
February 16, 2008	Appleton, WI
February 16, 2008	Rockford, IL
February 21, 2008	Iron River, MI
February 23, 2008	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
February 23, 2008	Tomahawk, WI
February 24, 2008	Madison, WI
March 01, 2008	Madison, WI
March 01, 2008	St. Paul, MN
March 02, 2008	Marshfield, WI
March 08, 2008	Blaine, MN
March 08, 2008	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 13, 2008	Apple Valley, MN
March 15, 2008	Sheboygan, WI
March 15, 2008	Rockford, IL
March 20, 2008	Iron River, MI
March 23, 2008	Tomahawk, WI
March 28, 2008	Menomonie, WI
March 29, 2008	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
April 05, 2008	Madison, WI
April 05, 2008	St. Paul, MN
April 10, 2008	Apple Valley, MN
April 12, 2008	Blaine, MN
April 12, 2008	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 17, 2008	Iron River, MI
April 19, 2008	Rockford, IL
April 19, 2008	Janesville, WI
April 19, 2008	Eau Claire, WI
April 26, 2008	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
April 26, 2008	Tomahawk, WI
May 03, 2008	La Crosse, WI
May 03, 2008	Madison, WI
May 03, 2008	St. Paul, MN
May 08, 2008	Apple Valley, MN
May 10, 2008	Blaine, MN
May 10, 2008	La Crosse, WI
May 10, 2008	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 15, 2008	Iron River, MI
May 17, 2008	Rockford, IL
May 24, 2008	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 31, 2008	Tomahawk, WI
June 07, 2008	Madison, WI
June 07, 2008	St. Paul, MN
June 12, 2008	Apple Valley, MN
June 14, 2008	Blaine, MN
June 14, 2008	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June 19, 2008	Iron River, MI
June 21, 2008	Rockford, IL
June 28, 2008	Tomahawk, WI
July 05, 2008	Madison, WI
July 05, 2008	St. Paul, MN
July 10, 2008	Apple Valley, MN
July 12, 2008	Blaine, MN
July 12, 2008	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 17, 2008	Iron River, MI
July 19, 2008	Rockford, IL
July 26, 2008	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
July 26, 2008	Tomahawk, WI
September 13, 2008	La Crosse, WI
November 08, 2008	La Crosse, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN

Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Thu.	Iron River, MI
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Rockford, IL
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(Except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A Hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Get your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>
or
<ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605>.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, W1AW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2007 test fee at \$14.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing

from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC.

Adams, WI
Adams City Fire Dept., 101 N. Main St., Highway 13, Adams, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner (608) 584-4858. ab9fn@arrl.net

Appleton, WI
Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building, 1302 East Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, WI
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W., Grand Ave. Enter off 2nd Avenue entrance, Eau Claire, WI
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome. Examination session coordinator: Jonathan E., Case, (715) 834-1540. www.ecarc.org. w9eau@ecarc.org.

Fond du Lac, WI
Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. Schultz, 920-922-3088, schultz74@charter.net.

Iron Mountain, MI
Sponsor: W5YI VEC. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-Ins Allowed). Contact: Mark J Lewis, (906)774-6598. VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Dickinson County Library, 401 South Iron Mountain St., Arrival Time: 9:00 AM. Conference Room, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Iron River, MI.
Sponsor: Iron Range ARA (IRARC). Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins). Contact: Dan R Waters, (906)265-4240. Email: dmwaters@ironriver.tv VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Iron River Lutheran Church, Across From Mc Donald's. Pre-Registration Required. If no applicants - No testing. Iron River, MI

49935
Janesville, WI
Saint John Lutheran Church, Conference Room, 292 N. Parker Drive, upper parking entrance. Janesville, WI. Contact Scott A. Fry, (608) 449-8513. e-mail: radarkilowatt@aol.com

La Crosse, WI (ARRL/VEC).
Sponsor: Riverland Amateur Radio Club Location: American Red Cross-2927 Losey Blvd. LaCrosse, WI Time: 9:00a.m. (Walk-Ins ok) Contact: Roger Reader 608-783-0723 readers@centurytel.net.

Madison, WI
The Madison Wisconsin, Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club-sponsored VE testing has moved to the new University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, lower level, Madison, WI in the Villager shopping center complex. Exams are given the first Saturday of the month, from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, no appointment is necessary. Questions may be directed to Carolyn Kammen, NQ9A at 608-246-0225 (home phone) or sent to NQ9A@arrl.net.

Marshfield, WI
Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Saint Joseph's Hospital, 611 Saint Joseph Ave., Room 124, Hospice South Bldg., Marshfield, WI 54449. Contact: Richard L. Nesbitt, (715)384-3489. Email: Nesbit@charter.net

Mauston, WI
Location is the Mauston City Hall, from 9am - noon. Holding testing sessions here quarterly for all elements. Walk-ins always welcomed and Talk-in via the 146.850 (pl 123.0) repeater. The contact person is myself dave@n0trq.com or 08-548-2271. Sponsored by Juneau County Amateur Radio Club (JCARC).

Menomonie, WI (ARRL/VEC)
Sponsored by the Dunn County Area Amateurs Location: University of Wisconsin, 121 10th Avenue, UW Stout Millennium Hall, NW Entrance, Menomonie, WI 54751. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: James L. Guenther, (715)232-2625. Email: guentherj@uwstrout.edu

Menominee, MI
Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee is \$10 with two pieces

(Continued on page 10)

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

(Continued from page 9)

of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at jrymer@ez-net.com or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at dxe@cybrzn.com. We will monitor the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Merrill, WI
Merrill Amateur Radio Group. 3:15 p.m. (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Myron J. Oestreich (715) 355-6902 e-mail: kb9stb@margdx Location: Gail’s Place, n4090 Cth. K, Lincoln Center Banquet Hall.

Milwaukee, WI
The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club VEC holds test sessions on the last Saturday, except in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test for one morning during the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. All sessions except WARAC swapfest are held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 at Amateur Electronic Supply, 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee. Watch for signs directing you to the session room. West Allis RAC Swapfest session is held at AMF lanes across the street from the Waukesha Expo. We usually start earlier; contact VEC for more info.

Bring along your original license or CSCE (if any), and one good quality photocopy of each, plus a form of identification (driver's license is fine). Exam fee is \$5.00; walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Tom Fuszard at 262-789-7975 or tom@supremecom.biz.

Negaunee, MI. Sponsor: HIAWATHA ARC. Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Richard E Schwenke, (906)249-3837, Email: n8gba@chartermi.net VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Health Dept Bldg (Downstairs), 184 US 41 E, Entrance @ Back of building. Negaunee, MI 49866

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)
Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the second Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Portage, WI
10:30 a.m. Portage Public Library, 253 W Edgewater St., Portage, WI. Contact Ed Wagner, (608) 584-4858. e-mail: ab9fh@yahoo.com.

Racine, WI
ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert M. Frederiksen, (262) 637-6588. e-mail: kb9zaf@arrl.net.

Rockford, IL
Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at St. Anthony Hospital, 5660 E State St., Rockford, IL. Contact: Randy Scott, W9HL, W9HL@ARRL.NET (815-877-4328).

Sheboygan, WI
Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated. Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, 920-876-2370. N8029 Willow Road k9xj@arrl.net Plymouth, WI 53073-2929

Tomahawk, WI
Tomahawk Repeater Association ARRL/VEC team. Last Saturday of every month January thru October. Registration at 8:30, testing at 9:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Hospital, 401 W. Mohawk Dr., Tomahawk. Contact Diane Lodge Hamman, KA9BHK, 145.43 MHz or telephone 715 453-3908.

St. Paul, MN
Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month. Site: Roseville City Hall, 2660 County Road C, NW Corner County Road. C & Lexington Ave., Roseville MN 55101. Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)Contact: David M Buending, (952)486-0836, Email: AD2B@ARRL.NET, VEC: ARRL/VEC.

Washington Island, WI
Contact: John W. Van Sandt, (217) 826-8821. n9yrx@hotmail.com

Waukesha, WI (Milwaukee VEC)
Sponsor: West Allis Radio Club Swapfest, Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed. Contact: John G. Kraak, (262)548-9585. Email: jkraak@wi.rr.com. Location: AMF Waukesha Lanes, across from Waukesha EXPO, Waukesha, WI 53186

Wausau, WI.
Sponsor: WVRA. Time: 8:00 Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Gerald L. Graebel, (715) 42-9542. VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Martech Systems, 614 N. 3rd Ave, Wausau, WI 54401. Parking in rear of building.

West Allis Radio Amateur Club

A Non-Profit Educational Organization
2008 Wisconsin QSO Party
RULES

DATE/TIME:	March 9, 2008 from 1800Z to 0100Z March 10 (1:00PM CDT to 8:00PM CDT) <i>Note: This is the first day of Daylight Savings Time!</i>
MODES:	CW and Phone. All stations may be worked once per mode on each band. In addition, mobiles may be worked once per mode per Wisconsin county that they operate from. Mobiles cannot sit on a county line.
ENTRY CLASSES:	<div>• Single Operator Fixed</div> <div>• Single Operator Mobile</div> <div>• Single Operator Tech</div> <div>• Single Operator Novice</div> <div>• Multi Operator Fixed</div> <div>• Multi Operator Mobile</div> <div>• Multi Operator Tech</div> <div>• Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Fixed</div> <div>• Multi Xmtr/Multi Op Mobile</div>
POWER LEVEL: (Choose one)	<div>• QRP (less than 5 watts)</div> <div>• Low (5 to 150 watts)</div> <div>• High (over 150W)</div>
SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES:	All amateur bands and modes not prohibited for contesting may be used. No Repeater QSO's. CW: 3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 15M, 10M, 6M, 2M and up. Phone: 3.890, 7.230, 14.290, 21.350, 28.400, 6M, 2M and up.
SCORING:	Phone contacts count 1 QSO Point; CW contacts count 2 QSO Points. Multiply CW + phone points by Power Level multiplier to determine CONTACT POINTS. WISCONSIN STATIONS: Multiply CONTACT points by the sum of Wisconsin counties (max. 72), plus states (max. 50) plus Canadian provinces (max. 13) worked. Note: DX countries worked count for QSO points but not as multipliers. NON-WISCONSIN STATIONS: Multiply CONTACT points by the number of Wisconsin counties worked (max.72). Note: Only Wisconsin contacts count.
BONUS:	WISCONSIN MOBILES/PORTABLES: Add 500 bonus points for each county that you operate from outside your home county. A minimum of 12 QSOs per county is required to qualify.
LOGS:	Entries must contain a log consisting of: Time (GMT), call, band, state/province, Wisconsin county, mode and a complete Score Summary including YOUR name, address and call. Paper logs containing more than 200 QSOs must be accompanied by a dupe sheet (separate dupe sheet for each mode). Mobile entries must indicate county changes in log. Logs due by April 9, 2008, to k9kr@dsi.net or to: <div>Wisconsin QSO Party</div> <div>West Allis Radio Amateur Club</div> <div>P. O. Box 1072</div> <div>Milwaukee, WI 53201</div>
AWARDS:	WISCONSIN: Awards will be presented to the following: a. Highest single operator score in the QSO Party. b. 10 highest single operator scores in each entry class. c. Highest multi-operator score in each entry class. d. Highest aggregate club score (club member stations to be located within 50 miles of the club, except for mobiles). NON-WISCONSIN: Awards will be presented to the following: a. Highest single operator score in the QSO Party. b. Highest single operator score in each single operator category in each state/province.

For further information contact: WARAC at the above address or http://www.warac.org/wqp/2008/wiwp_rules.htm

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY

(Continued from page 4)

P S H R SUMMARY November 2007							
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KB9KEG	40	40	30	250	1	10	370
WD9FLJ	40	23	10	50	0	0	123
K9LGU	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
AG9G	40	40	20	15	0	0	115
K9FHI	40	40	10	0	0	10	100
W9RTP	40	40	10	5	0	0	95
W9RSX	40	25	10	0	0	0	75
December 2007							
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KB9KEG	40	40	30	210	0	10	330
AG9G	40	40	20	20	0	0	120
K9FHI	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
K9LGU	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
WD9FLJ	40	9	10	25	0	0	84
W9RSX	40	12	10	0	0	0	62



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)
Club net: Sundays 8:00 p.m. on 147.315
Richard K. Plouffe, N9ROY, Secretary
P.O. Box 641, Lake Delton, WI 53940
YTARC Home Page: <http://yellowthunder.org>



The regular monthly meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2007 was canceled due to bad weather.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 7:30pm at the Sauk County Courthouse in Baraboo, room C128. Use the Broadway street entrance, doors will be open at 7:00pm meeting will start at 7:30pm SHARP!

The January meeting will be replaced by the annual Christmas party. Time, date and location to be determined.

Tune into the weekly net on Sundays at 8:00pm on our repeater, 147.315+ w/123.0 tone for further information.

Thanks!

Steve Schulze, N9UDO
President, Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc. - WB9FDZ
Treasurer, Badgerland Amateur Television Society - KB9SFS
AEC, Sauk County ARES

Circus City Swapfest - August 9, 2008
Sauk County Fairgrounds - Baraboo, WI
<http://yellowthunder.org>

Swapfests And Other Social Events

(Continued from page 2)

708-457-0966. Fax: 708-457-0966. Email: mike2006@comcast.net

September 19-20, 2008. W9DXCC Convention. Holiday Inn, [1000 Busse Road](#), Elk Grove Village, IL. Northern Illinois DX Association. <http://www.w9dxcc.com> Talk-In: 147.36. Contact: Bill Smith, W9VA, 2635 Crestwood Lane, Riverwoods, IL 60015. Phone: 847-945-1564. Fax: 847-945-6554. Email: w9va@aol.com

September 20-21, 2008. Peoria Superfest 2008. Exposition Gardens, [1601 West Northmoor Road](#), Peoria, IL. Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club. <http://www.peoriasuperfest.com> Talk-In:

147.075 + (PL 103.5). Contact: J o h n Coker, N9FAM, 133 Vonachen Court, East Peoria, IL 61611. Phone: 309-369-7428. Email: n9fam@arrl.net

Nov 15-16, 2008, Indiana State Convention (Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo). Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN. Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society. <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com> Talk-In: 146.88 (-). Contact: James D. Boyer, KB9IH, PO Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342. Phone: 260-579-2196. Email: chairman@fortwaynehamfest.com

Further information about hamfests in the area can be found at bsss.org or at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html> If your organization is sponsoring a Hamfest/ Swapfest and would like us to list your event, please send the information to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN at the address on page 2 or to k9en@arrl.net

Check us out on the web
at <http://www.bsss.org>

The Madison Area Repeater Association, Inc. is proud to announce:

The 2008 Madison Hamfest

& Computer Fair

Saturday, April 19, 2008

8:00am until 1:00pm

(Dealer Set-Up Friday Night and Saturday Morning)

The Madison Hamfest will once again be held at the

Mandt Community Center

400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, Wisconsin

The Mandt Community Center is [located](#) in the Stoughton Junior Fair Grounds on the south side of Stoughton.

Talk-in Frequency: 147.75/15 Mhz

Featuring vendors of new and used equipment for all aspects of **Amateur Radio, Electronics and Computer enthusiasts as well as computer software. All in the Mandt Community Center's spacious 26,000 sq. ft. main hall!**

The doors will open to the public at 8:00am.

Plenty of spacious FREE PARKING!

TICKET PRICES

Hamfest advanced sale general admission tickets are \$4.00 per person. \$5 day of show.

Vendor table fees are \$15.00 per 8 ft table if ordered before April 2, 2008. \$18.00 after that. Tables are \$25.00 day of swapfest, if available.

If you are interested in purchasing tickets or table space, contact: Paul Toussaint by [E-mail](#) at w9hsy@hotmail.com or by phone at: 608.245.8890.

**FOURTEENTH ANNUAL
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MARCH 28 & 29 • 2008**

For more information contact Ray Grenier, K9KHW at rayk9khw@aol.com or 414-375-1162

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SWAPFESTS

<div><p>2004 WINNER Nicholas Luther, K9NL Oshkosh, WI.</p></div> <div><p>34th ANNUAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN SATURDAY JANUARY 03, 2009</p><p><i>Both sponsored by: THE WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC. P. O. BOX 1072 · MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201</i></p></div>	<p><i>HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!</i> MADISON SWAPFEST Mandt Community Center <i>APRIL 19, 2008</i> 400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton WI Doors open at 8 a.m. Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890 Swapfest Information Line. (608) 245-8890</p>	<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST 08 SUNDAY, JULY 06, 2008 (Held every July) <i>American Legion Park</i> <i>Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</i> (414) 762-3235, Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102, South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail ryatex@aol.com</p>		
<p>Ozaukee Radio Club HAM RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST MAY 03 2008—SEPT. 06, 2008 Sept., 2007. ORC outdoor swapfest. Fireman's Park, Cedarburg, WI. Contact: Tom Ruhlmann, W9IPR, (262) 377-6945 Admission is \$5.00 at the gate. No tables to rent. Sell from the back of your vehicle. For current information go to: www.ozaukeeadioclub.org</p>	<p>The Chicago FM Club presents RADIO EXPO 2008 SEPTEMBER , 13-14, 2008 Boone County Fairgrounds Rts. 76 and Business 20, Belvidere, Illinois Free parking • Amateur Exams • Talkin 146.16/76 Info Voice mail and FAX: (708) 457-0966 http://www.chicagofmclub.org 5127 N. Monterey Dr., Norridge IL 60706-3242</p>	<p>TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS HAMFEST 2007 March 16, 2008 YOUR SPRING FAVORITE ! www.cmdline.com/tcarc/ TCARC 213 Frederick St (920) 563-6381 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 Evenings</p>		
<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AUCTION Amateur Radio, Computers & Electronics Wed. MAR. 05, 2008, 6:00 p.m. <i>American Legion Post 434</i> <i>Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</i> (414) 762-3235, Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 , South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail: ryatex@aol.com</p>	<p>Circus City Swapfest Sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club August 9, 2008 • 7 am—Noon Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI</p> <table><tr><td>Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area</td><td>\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables</td></tr></table> <p>Steve Schulze, N9UDO • Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (606) 356-2313 • (608) 643-6908/643-6453 http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm,</p>	Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables	<p>The Milwaukee Repeater Club presents AMATEUR RADIO FEST 2008 NOVEMBER , 2008 5555 W, Good Hope Road, Milwaukee, WI Elks Lodge, Across from AES For more information, see: http://www.mrc91.org e-mail mrc@mrc91.org or call (414) 526-7011</p>
Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables			

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

<p>TOWER ELECTRONICS THE HAMS DIME STORE AND WHOLESALER TO THE WORLD</p> <div></div> <p>ORDERS 1-800-662-3422 TECH INFO 920-435-3359 FAX LINE 920-435-2980</p> <p>SCOTT KB9AMM & JILL KB9PZF e-mail: sales@pl-259.com P O BOX 12631 GREEN BAY, WI 54307-2631 PRODUCTS FOR HAMS FROM HAMS SINCE 1978 web: www.pl-259.com</p>	<div></div> <p>ARRL Publications HOTLINE Call Toll Free! 888-277-5289 e-mail: pubsales@arrl.org</p> <p>Check us out on the Web: http://www.arrl.org/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete Publications Catalog• Membership application and services	<p>FOURTEENTH ANNUAL AES SUPERFEST MARCH 28 & 29 • 2008</p> <p>http://aesham.com</p>
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by Rich Regent, K9GDF


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IN MY RADIO SHACK ROOF



I GET SNOW ON MY RADIO !

